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21 January 1953

General Walter B. Smith
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Smith:

There is enclosed herewith Copy No. 2A of a report consisting of a memorandum dated December 22, 1952 to the Executive Secretary, NSC, from the Director, FBI, and a report to the President dated December 4, 1952 with an Appendix A, concerning "Countermeasures Required to Detect and Defend Against the Clandestine Introduction and Detonation in Place of Demolition Atomic Weapons in the United States." The report was prepared at the President's direction by a Special Committee consisting of the Chairman, AEC, the members of the IIC and representatives of the Secretaries of State and Treasury. The report is the result of information made available by the AEC regarding atomic weapons development. The information has been incorporated in a memorandum to the Executive Secretary, NSC, by Mr. McKay Donkin, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, AEC, dated November 25, 1952, a copy of which is enclosed.

By joint memorandum of December 29, 1952, the Executive Secretary, NSC, advised the Chairman of IIC and ICIS, that the President on that date authorized implementation of the recommendations in the report as a broad guide to the departments and agencies concerned in establishing necessary detection and countermeasures with respect to this subject, under the coordination of the IIC and the ICIS in conjunction with the AEC. He advised further that the above Presidential authorization was accordingly being transmitted for appropriate implementation.

The ICIS is now endeavoring to execute the responsibilities assigned to it by the Presidential direction outlined above. The ICIS is of the opinion that the formulation of sound conclusions and recommendations in this regard will be greatly assisted by a National Intelligence Estimate regarding Soviet capabilities for clandestine introduction into the U.S. of atomic weapons of the type described in the enclosed AEC memorandum as well as an estimate of the numbers of such weapons and the likely channels in order of priority that the USSR would

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use in such event. The ICIS requests to be provided with such an estimate and believes that it should cover the degree of threat involved in relation to a military attack upon the U.S.

In view of the importance of the estimate to the internal security of the U.S., the defense of the United States, both military and otherwise, and to national security in general, the Committee asks that the above request be accorded top priority consideration.

For your information your attention is invited to the first Recommendation on page 10 of the enclosed report which is of particular interest to your agency.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Raymond P. Whearty
Chairman, Interdepartmental Committee
on Internal Security

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